

Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes October 16, 2014
Bangs Community Center 6:30pm

Meeting called to order at 6:40 by Chair Greg Bascomb.

Present: Members Carol Ross, Ingrid Askew, Lois Raj, Greg Bascomb, Kathleen Anderson. Carol Ross left at 7pm, Ingrid left at 7:40; Kathleen Anderson arrived 7:15. Not present: Sid Ferreira, Liam Brodigan. Deb Radway, HRHR Director. Prospective member Priya Ghosh.

There were no agenda additions.

The meeting minutes of October 15, 2014 were approved, with the amendment that the MCC grant for the Frederick Douglass reading did not happen.

New Business:

Slate of Officers for FY 15 was unanimously approved: Greg Bascomb, Chair
Sid Ferreira, Vice Chair
Lois Raj, Treasurer

Prospective Member Priya Ghosh UMASS '15 introduced herself. She is graduating in May but starting to work on a Master's Degree soon thereafter and will be in town.

2014-5 Activities Review:

- Ingrid working on a fundraising campaign for Sierra Leone, focusing on a day of prayer on the Common and walk to Peace Pagoda. Ingrid also announced she will be in South Africa for much of the winter and spring.
- Community Conversation event set for UU Church on Friday, November 14, 2014. Dialogue on race and white privilege. Commission voted to fund up to \$100 of supplies for refreshments and goods needed for the event.
- Request level funded budget from Town for FY 16. Budget request due prior to next meeting. Ms. Radway committed to submitting the request for the Commission.
- Film and Video Series-not in progress at current time.
- Dec 10 annual vigil on the Common to read the Declaration of Human Rights-event is scheduled. Looking for HRC members to support and publicize activity. Priya has ideas.
- Chief Nelson will be invited to speak to the Commission in November or December.
- Advocacy for people with disabilities-meeting with Madeline Peters-Spring 2015
- Review of other programs on the 2013-4 list.
- Discussion of a regular monthly Executive Committee meeting (?).
- Discussion of need to review HRC bylaw.
- Encouragement to Select Board to appoint prospective member UMASS Student Priya Ghosh

Guest present: Past HRC member Raphael Lopez-Sanchez inquired about HRC mentoring program with and for veterans.

Request from Greg to members to email him if you have ideas.

Meeting adjourned 7:50pm.